

REMARKS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Examiner's letter of June 25, 2004 in which a requirement for election or restriction was made.

The Applicant elects the species shown in Fig. 7b.

The Applicant believes that the following claims read on the embodiment of Fig. 7b: 1, 3 to 8, 10, 11, 30 to 35, 38, 40 to 42.

The Applicant notes that the requirement for an election of species is fundamentally based upon maintaining a reasonable searching burden on the Examiner. In the present instance, although there are 49 claims pending in the case, and although the Examiner has identified as many as 30 species, the Applicant respectfully submits that the searching burden for searching all of these species is unlikely to be significantly greater than the searching burden for searching Fig. 7b alone. Further in that regard, the applicant proposes to submit a modestly extensive Information Disclosure Statement that, it is thought, may reduce the searching burden in some measure. Second, although the number of claims, 49, may seem large, there is a good measure of repetitiveness in style and wording of the defendant claims. In that light, the examining burden may not be unduly excessive. Third, the Applicant respectfully submits that it is in both the interests of the Applicant and the public that the prosecution of this Application proceed in a reasonably efficient and expeditious manner, such as may hasten the prosecution of this case.

For all of these reasons, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider whether it might not be in the best interests of all concerned to examine all of claims 1 to 49 at present, and to waive the present requirement for election of Species.

CONCLUSION

The Applicant respectfully requests early and favourable disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,
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